species). It can be successfully used for early detection and targeted monitoring (e.g. to survey sites prone to invasion, areas of interest for nature conservation, such as NATURA 2000 sites), or to check eradication success). On the other hand, it produces large amounts of data generating needs for automatization. Also the UAV data processing is more complex and demanding compared to standard satellite imagery. Using UAV for monitoring also has legal constrains that need to be considered. Within EU, UAV operation in urban and inhabited areas is prohibited, limiting the application especially for invasive species that thrive on man-made habitats. Despites its limits, it still provides a reasonable alternative to satellite imagery especially in vegetation mapping, where often data of high spatial and temporal resolution are required.

4. CONCLUSIONS

RS approach, namely application of UAV, represents fast, efficient, rather objective and repeatable method for detection, monitoring and studying plant invasions, reducing considerably the costs if compared to the field campaigns. However, appropriate species specific methodological approaches must be established to make the monitoring useful.

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